

VOLKSWAGEN · POWERTRAIN

P1432

OBD-II DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODE (DTC)

P1432 · Volkswagen

Secondary Air Injection Valve Open

P1432 on Volkswagen vehicles means the engine control module has detected that the secondary air injection valve is stuck open or the circuit is open, preventing the pump from building pressure during cold starts. The computer monitors the secondary air system during the cold-start phase and flags this code when the valve does not respond as expected or the electrical circuit shows an open condition.

SYSTEM

Powertrain

CODE TYPE

Volkswagen
specific

SEVERITY

Medium

FIX DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

AREA

Auxiliary emission
controls

Symptoms you may notice

- Illumination of the check engine light, often with no other noticeable symptoms
- A brief, audible hissing or rushing air noise from the engine bay during cold starts
- Rough idle or slight hesitation in the first minute after a cold start
- A sulfur or rich exhaust smell during warm-up due to extra fuel being added
- Slightly increased fuel consumption during cold-start enrichment
- Failed emissions test if the secondary air system is not functioning

Common causes, most likely first

- 1 Failed secondary air injection valve (stuck open or electrically open)
- 2 Damaged or disconnected electrical connector at the secondary air valve
- 3 Broken or corroded wiring in the valve circuit (open circuit)
- 4 Failed secondary air injection pump (though less common for this specific code)
- 5 Clogged or disconnected vacuum line to the valve (on vacuum-operated valves)
- 6 Faulty engine control module (rare, but possible if all other checks pass)

How to diagnose and fix it

- 1 Scan all modules for stored codes and verify P1432 is current, then check freeze-frame data for cold-start conditions
- 2 Inspect the secondary air valve electrical connector for corrosion, tightness, and pin damage
- 3 Test the valve circuit with a multimeter for continuity and voltage supply during cold start
- 4 Apply vacuum to the valve (if vacuum-operated) and listen for the valve opening and closing
- 5 Remove the valve and inspect for carbon buildup or a stuck-open condition
- 6 Replace the secondary air injection valve if it fails electrical or mechanical testing
- 7 Clear codes and perform a cold-start drive cycle to verify the repair



What the P1432 code does not always mean

- A stuck-open secondary air valve can cause a lean exhaust condition during cold start, leading to misfire codes that may be misdiagnosed as ignition or fuel problems.
- The secondary air system only operates for the first 60 to 90 seconds after a cold start, so the fault may not appear during a warm-engine diagnostic session.
- A failed secondary air pump can sometimes set P1432 instead of a pump-specific code because the valve is the first component the ECM monitors for pressure buildup.
- Carbon buildup on the valve seat is a common cause of a valve that sticks open, and cleaning the valve may restore function without replacement.
- On some Volkswagen engines, a leaking vacuum line to the valve can mimic an electrically open valve, so always check vacuum integrity before condemning the valve.

Can I keep driving with P1432?

You can generally drive the vehicle with P1432, but avoid prolonged idling and cold-start short trips because the extra fuel during warm-up can dilute the oil and stress the catalytic converter. Have the fault diagnosed soon to prevent secondary damage to emissions components.

Tools that help

- OBD-II scan tool with manufacturer-specific software
- Digital multimeter
- Hand vacuum pump
- Basic socket and wrench set
- Flashlight and inspection mirror

Reading P1432

P	Powertrain: engine, transmission and emissions.
1	Manufacturer-specific code (Volkswagen): its meaning depends on the make.
4	Auxiliary emission controls.
32	The exact fault within that area.

Often seen with

P0411 Secondary Air Injection System Incorrect Flow · **P0413** Secondary Air Injection System Switching Valve 'A' Circuit O · **P0414** Secondary Air Injection System Switching Valve 'A' Circuit S · **P0418** Secondary Air Injection System Control 'A' Circuit · **P0420** Catalyst System Efficiency Below Threshold (Bank 1)



See it working

Watch the animated explainer **Four-Stroke Engine Cutaway: Intake to Exhaust** on Auto Veteran to see the parts involved moving.

Full guide, related articles and animations: <https://www.autoveteran.tech/dtc-codes/volkswagen-p1432/>

